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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/008,934      | 11/09/2001  | Chojiro Kuriyama     | 10921.90USD1        | 4795             |

7590 10/02/2002

Attention of Douglas P. Mueller  
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HA T

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2812

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|  |                          |   |  |
|--|--------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b>   | Application No.          | Applicant(s)  |  |
|  | 10/008,934               | KURIYAMA, CHOJIRO   |  |
|  | Examiner<br>Ha T. Nguyen | Art Unit<br>2812  |  |
| <i>-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --</i>   |                          |   |  |
| <b>Period for Reply</b>  |                          |   |  |
| <b>A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</b>   |                          |   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.</li> <li>- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.</li> <li>- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.</li> <li>- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).</li> <li>- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</li> </ul> |                          |   |  |
| <b>Status</b>  |                          |   |  |
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.  |                          |   |  |
| 2a) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is <b>FINAL</b> .                    2b) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.   |                          |   |  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  |                          |   |  |
| <b>Disposition of Claims</b>   |                          |   |  |
| 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-11 and 19-27</u> is/are pending in the application.   |                          |   |  |
| 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  |                          |   |  |
| 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.  |                          |   |  |
| 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.   |                          |   |  |
| 7) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.  |                          |   |  |
| 8) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-11 and 19-27</u> are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.  |                          |   |  |
| <b>Application Papers</b>  |                          |   |  |
| 9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  |                          |   |  |
| 10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) <input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b) <input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner.<br>Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  |                          |   |  |
| 11) <input type="checkbox"/> The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) <input type="checkbox"/> approved b) <input type="checkbox"/> disapproved by the Examiner.<br>If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.   |                          |   |  |
| 12) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.   |                          |   |  |
| <b>Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120</b>   |                          |   |  |
| 13) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).   |                          |   |  |
| a) <input type="checkbox"/> All    b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some * c) <input type="checkbox"/> None of:<br>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.<br>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.<br>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).<br>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.   |                          |   |  |
| 14) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).<br>a) <input type="checkbox"/> The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.  |                          |   |  |
| 15) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.  |                          |   |  |
| <b>Attachment(s)</b>   |                          |   |  |
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   |                          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____ . |  |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   |                          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ .  |                          | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |  |

***Election/Restriction***

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-11, drawn to a capacitor, classified in class 361, subclass 528.
  - II. Claims 19-27, drawn to a process of making solid electrolytic capacitor , classified in class 29, subclass 25.03.

2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product as claimed can be made by a materially different process such as packaging each product capacitor individually instead of cutting the plate assembly.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classifications, and separate examination would be required, restriction for examination purpose as indicated is proper.

If applicants elect Group II, a further election is required because this group contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- I- Species of figs. 81-132 (appear to correspond to claims 19-23); and
- II- Species of figs. 133-153 (appear to correspond to claims 24-27).

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claim is generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purpose as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ha Nguyen whose telephone number is (703)308-2706 . The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Niebling, can be reached on (703) 308-3325. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-2864.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Ha Nguyen

Primary examiner

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